

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1237

By Beck

A RESOLUTION to honor Chancellor Ellen Hobbs Lyle on the occasion of her retirement from the bench.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in recognizing one of the finest jurists this State has ever produced, namely Davidson County Chancellor Ellen Hobbs Lyle; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Lyle is taking a much-deserved retirement after twenty-seven years of dedicated and insightful service with Davidson County's 20th District Chancery Court, Part III, having decided not to seek another term in the upcoming election; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Lyle has served on the bench since 1995 and has been elected to three full terms on the Davidson County Chancery Court; and

WHEREAS, her exemplary judicial career has spanned a broad spectrum of business cases, including shareholder litigation, noncompetition and trade secrets disputes, corporate dissolutions, contract cases, accountings, mergers and acquisitions, and construction cases; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Lyle earned distinction as the highest-ranked Davidson County state trial judge in the 2014 Nashville Bar Association Poll, and she has received an AV Preeminent Rating from Martindale-Hubbell; and

WHEREAS, Ellen Hobbs Lyle began her career as an associate attorney with the law firm of Watergate prosecutor Leon Jaworski (Fullbright and Jaworski) in Houston, Texas; and

WHEREAS, returning home to Nashville in 1984, she practiced law as a partner in the firm of Trabue, Sturdivant and Dewitt until taking the bench in 1995; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her service at the bar and on the bench, Chancellor Lyle was a judiciary liaison for the Tennessee Supreme Court Advisory Commission on Rules of Practice

and Procedure from 2012 to 2015 and has served as Archivist and Director of the Lawyers' Association For Women, Marion Griffin Chapter; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Lyle earned her Bachelor of Arts degree with Phi Beta Kappa distinction from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and her J.D. from the University of Tennessee College of Law; and

WHEREAS, a fifth-generation Nashvillian, Ellen Hobbs Lyle is the daughter of Jack and Jo Ann Hobbs and a graduate of the Harpeth Hall School; she is the mother of one daughter and is married to former Circuit Court Judge and former Senior Judge Walter C. Kurtz; and

WHEREAS, throughout her illustrious tenure on the bench, Chancellor Lyle has exhibited the greatest integrity and intelligence and a strong commitment to equity under the law, and she is most worthy of our approbation on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that it is a pleasure and a privilege for this body to honor Davidson County Chancellor Ellen Hobbs Lyle on the occasion of her retirement after twenty-seven years on the bench. We extend to her our gratitude for a difficult job well done and our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.